



SAINT LOUIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

BULLETIN

Vol. 43 No. 5

HOLIDAY ISSUE

1979

In 1779 there were 25,000 eagles in what later became the 48 states. Now 200 years later there are less than 4000. Last year's census yielded 9,810 eagles, the highest count ever. But more than half this number were seasonal visitors from Canada. The great loss can be contributed to logging, urban development, pesticides and shooting. The National Wildlife's Raptor Information Center gives great hope in their latest report that America's endangered eagles are on the increase.

The Saint Louis Audubon Society is dedicated to making this come true. Save Clarksville Island (page 2) is one important projects of the Society. Another project is the annual gift of \$1500 to the School of Veterinary Medicine, Missouri University-Columbia. This gift has enabled additional research, the purchase of supplies and equipment to Save Our American Raptors (SOAR).

Now help is needed to implement still another project of the Saint Louis Audubon Society. Bill Voelker, a long time friend of the Society and a well known naturalist, is breeding eagles in captivity. Last year he successfully hatched 5 eagles. For the coming season 12 eagles have been set up for breeding and six more will be received this month.

Keeping and breeding eagles is not an open business. Every eagle is the property of the federal government, and keepers are licensed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. All the eagles Bill hatches next spring will be released to the wild.

Funds are needed to provide nesting materials, incubators and breeding pens. This project receives no federal or private grants, and so we must depend on members and friends of the Society. Your donations are tax deductible and every cent you give will go directly for this project. Make your check payable to Voelker Project, Saint Louis Audubon Society and mail to the Society at 2109 Briargate Lane, 63122.

MAKE IT A GOOD YEAR FOR THE EAGLES'

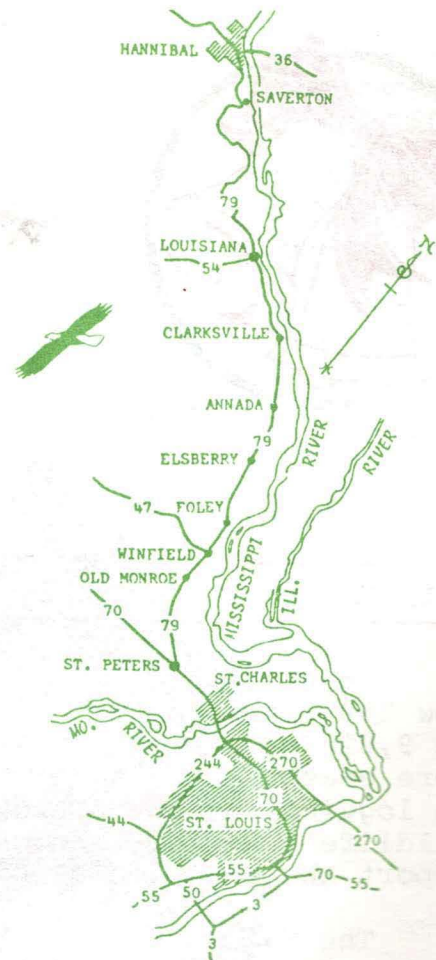
EAGLES, EAGLES, EAGLES

You are invited to participate in the 15th annual Mississippi Valley Winter Bald Eagle Count.

The date is Saturday, January 12, and the assigned area from Winfield Dam, north to Saverton.

Meet at Kamp Tog plant in Clarksville at 8:30 a.m., a drive of 1 1/2 hours from Clayton Court House. Follow Interstate 70 to St. Peters. North on #79 to Clarksville. Kamp Togs is on the left side entering Clarksville. Coffee and a warm welcome awaits you.

This is a great trip for the inexperienced as well as "seasoned" birders. Children welcome. Dress warmly and bring lunch.



FWS to Acquire Clarksville Island

The Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed to acquire the 700 acre Clarksville Island in the Mississippi River below Clarksville Dam. It will be acquired under the Unique Wildlife Ecosystem Program. This Island provides habitat for some 150 species of birds including three wildlife species of National or state concern. Over 100 bald eagles have been counted on this Island during recent winters. Great blue herons and great egrets maintain a rookery on Clarksville Island in summer.

The records of the 14 year count of eagles by members of the Saint Louis Audubon Society provided great consideration in the preparation of environmental documents. The Saint Louis Audubon Society has long supported public acquisition of this unique habitat and look forward to the federal acquisition.

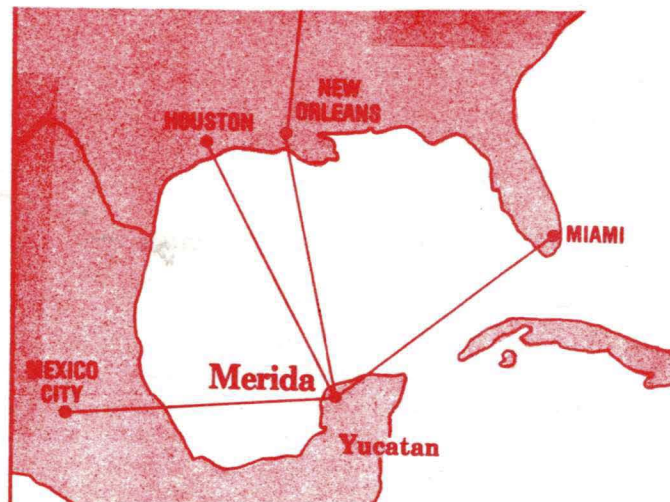
AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM

Friday, February 8, 1980, The Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road at 8:15 p.m., Tom Diez will present two 40 minute films which are an invitation to backpack in the wilderness. Northwest Adventure takes you into Canada and islands of the Bering Sea. Pennsylvania is the setting for Adventures in Penn's Woods.



A VERY SPECIAL INVITATION...

St. Louis Audubon Society
INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE to
Yucatan, March 18 through
March 23, 1980. All expense
tour of six days and five nights.
RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED NOW.



On Tuesday, March 18, leave Lambert Airport on the first St. Louis Audubon Society International Adventure to Yucatan, Mexico via New Orleans.

In Merida you will be met, helped through customs and driven to the beautiful Hacienda Inn, headquarters for your Adventure in Yucatan. After a pool-side party and orientation, dinner will be served. You may eat what you wish and at any time you desire.

While in Yucatan there will be two days of birding with expert guides. All flyways funnel into this country and many new species are your for the viewing. One day will be jungle exploration and birding, and you will be poled thru this strange land by experienced guides.

Two days will be spent exploring the fabulous Mayan Ruines which are one of the Wonders of the World. There will be a trip to Chichen Itza and one to Uxmal with the "sight and sound" experience.

Birding in Yucatan is an extravaganza, and shopping exciting. You will find unique and beautiful things from sandals to sombreros...turquoise, black and red coral and silver and silver. All at reasonable prices. The unusual shells are your for the picking.

The unbelievably low price is \$650 plus a \$50, tax deductible contribution to the St. Louis Audubon Society. This trip is limited to 20 Adventurers and based on double occupancy. Everything is paid for except liquor, personal purchases and gratuities. The weather will be warm, it seldom rains, dress is casual and life is easy. This trip has never been offered by any travel agency and has been privately arranged with the Pancho Villa Club.

Reservations must be made now so airline tickets may be purchased in advance of another increase. TEAR OFF BOTTOM OF PAGE AND MAIL NOW.

Name _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Check enclosed \$50.00 _____

Mail to: St. Louis Audubon Society, 2109 Briargate Lane, St. Louis, MO. 63122

Dr. Russell W. Peterson, president of National Audubon Society, recently visited the St. Louis Chapter. While here he shared a copy of the Fairfield Osborn Memorial Lecture, "The Accumulating Threat to Life", given at Rockefeller University, November 12.

Excerpts from this thought provoking lecture....

"The unborn generations are crying for our attention. The anti-life avalanche humankind is fashioning threatens to roll over them before they see the light of life. With ever-greater frequency, we have been creating and selecting life-threatening paths into the future".

"With the expanding knowledge and abundant cheap energy came a multitude of tools, so that each human could now do the work of hundreds...."

Quoting Roger Tory Peterson: "Birds are indicators of the environment--a sort of ecological litmus paper. Because of their furious pace of living and high rate of metabolism, they reflect subtle changes in the environment rather quickly; they warn us of things out of balance. They send out signals when there is a deterioration of the ecosystem. It is inevitable that the intelligent person who watches birds becomes an environmentalist". What have the birds been telling us in recent years?"

"Will we leave future generations a poisoned, wasted earth as the deferred cost of this generation's shortsightedness? Or will we pass on to them a healthy, beautiful, bountiful earth---the lasting returns of the wise investments of today? The choice is now ours to make".

If you would like a copy of Dr. Peterson's lecture, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (30¢ please) number 10 envelope. We're having copies made for you.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO RECENT CONTRIBUTORS
TO St. Louis Audubon PROJECTS:

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Butler
Sander B. Zwick
Betty J. Betts
Richard R. McAllister
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mauer
Martin Schweig
Clare Condon
Tom Brooks
Caseyville High School, Caseyville,
by Dennis Craft, 5th grade
The Pulitzer Foundation
The Bulletin Editor
Ellie Ernst
St. Louis Globe-Democrat
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

MAGIC MIX For Insect Eating Birds

In response to many requests we again offer you "Magic Mix".

In a 2 quart jar or bowl, put 2 cups melted fat (lard, bacon grease or Crisco); the reason for melting the fat is so you can mix it with the following:

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1/2 cup Karo corn syrup
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 4 cups cornmeal or enough to make it the consistency to stuff into holes of feeder.

To teach birds to eat Magic Mix for the first time, place in small pieces on top of feeder in plain sight. Never feed peanut butter to birds without mixing with cornmeal, oatmeal, etc., as it has been known to stick to the throats of small birds and choke them to death.

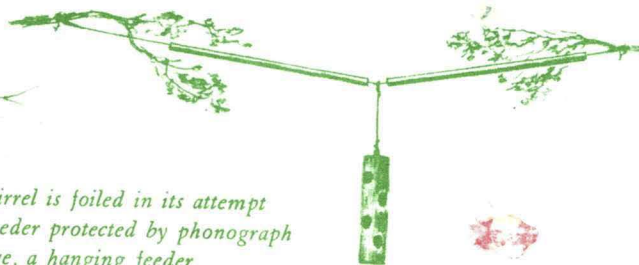
INGREDIENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL BIRD FEEDING PROGRAM

1) bakery products, 2) birdseed mixtures composed of millet, canary seed, rape and flax, 3) buckwheat for quail and doves, 4) fruit, grit and nutmeats, 5) suet and suet mixtures, 6) scratch feed, 7) sunflower seed and 8) thistle (niger) for finches.

If you are bothered by starlings here are foods that they wont take: buckwheat, coconut in the shell, whole kernels of corn, peanuts in the shell, rape, unhulled sunflower and thistle. It is too bad that we should have received this bird, one of the most quarrelsome and aggressive member of the Old World family which was introduced in New York City in 1890. The ground is the most favorite feeding place of this species so it is well not to throw too much feed on the lawn.

Squirrels can also be a problem. Almost any hanging feeder or one on a post can be squirrel-proofed, but allow for the uncanny ability of these animals. Metal shields of various kinds can be used to stop squirrels. To outsmart them. Shields placed around the post to which the feeder is attached and wobbly objects in the path of squirrels trying to reach a hanging feeder will deter them. Try protecting hanging feeders with old phonograph records and post feeders with a cone-shaped metal guard. Both the Hylarious and the Mandarin feeders are squirrel proof. Listed in "Christmas Finds" you will find sources for these feeders.

The Complete Guide to Bird Feeding by John V. Dennis published by Knopf will give you excellent tips on attracting and feeding birds.



At left a squirrel is foiled in its attempt to get at a feeder protected by phonograph records. Above, a hanging feeder squirrel-proofed by plastic tubing.

By Kalmenoff from Complete Guide To Bird Feeding.



WINTER ANIMAL PHOTOGRAPHY

by Lee F. Mason

Even if you cannot go on a safari to the jungles of Africa this winter, you can visit your local zoo and "shoot" some of the same exotic animals the rewarding way - with a camera. The openness of leafless trees and well placed feeding stations will aid in putting on film the feathered wild that frequents your backyard during cold months.

Today's camera and accessories make exciting photography along these lines easier than ever before. The natural wariness of animals, however, make a telephoto lens indispensable. These long lenses are now far less expensive than just a few years ago. Master your equipment before setting out on a photographic safari of any kind. Patience is essential. Sometimes luck plays a part in getting an outstanding photo - but most often preplanning is the reason for it.

Knowing the habits of your "prey" is very helpful. Wild birds will usually land on a convenient observation spot before flying to a feeder. See that a tree limb or a shrub branch is in the right place for birds to check out the situation at your feeder. Zoo animals have a pattern to their movements. They are more alert in early morning and most are quite active before feeding time. After eating these animals usually have a set routine: they clean up, look for a place to lie down (often the same spot day after day), they yawn, stretch, then go to sleep. Upon waking the performance is just the reverse. Try to get your "quarry" in a natural pose and keep your background natural. The angle from which you "shoot" can make or break the picture. A carefully thought out pre-planned photograph tells a story, and that two-dimensional picture can be made to take on the added dimension of meaning for the viewer.

If you are careful about the three most common errors of photography you'll greatly improve your pictures: 1) CAMERA MOVEMENT- if you do not use a tripod, firm the camera with your elbows held close to the body. If photographing a moving subject, follow the subject movement and shoot at 1/250 or 1/500, when crossing in front of you. For maximum sharpness stop lens as much as possible. 2) IMPROPER EXPOSURE: is film speed setting right on the exposure meter? If faced with two extremes in lighting-and a flash can't be used to help the situation-read the lightest and darkest areas of your picture. If the two readings are not more than 3 stops apart (this applies only to color photography-black and white film has greater latitude), split the difference and you will get acceptable exposure. When using a flash be sure the cord is connected to the right socket and the switch position is correct. Check to see if the electronic flash is on, or a fresh bulb in the flash gun. 3) SUBJECT NOT PROPERLY FRAMED: check your composition and refocus just before snapping your picture. Be sure the lens is set to the proper aperture-then shoot.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY SECTION OF ST. L. A. MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY FROM OCTOBER THROUGH JUNE (NO JANUARY MEETING) AT 7:45 p.m., IN THE AUDITORIUM OF THE CLAYTON FEDERAL SAINGS AND LOAN, ELM AND LOCKWOOD, WEBSTER GROVES.

WE WILL WELCOME YOU.

LASER BEAM USED IN WILDLIFE STUDY

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has begun a project on the upper Mississippi River, using a laser beam and a compact computer, that will attempt to simulate the effects a high-voltage power line might have on birds.

"Bird strikes with fixed objects such as power lines are quite common," according to Carl Korschgen, FWS biologist and project coordinator. "No bird species seems immune to collision with power lines. Songbirds, eagles, ducks and geese; all sorts of birds have been known to strike power lines." Such occurrences have been documented at several locations and are not isolated situations.

The laser beam will project a two-inch diameter beam of light across a 3/4 mile stretch of the Mississippi River where bird movement during migration can be quite heavy. The beam is coupled to a computer that will record the total elapsed time the beam is interrupted when a bird or other object passes.

This will provide researchers evidence regarding the size and type of bird passing by. The computer will provide a readout every 10 minutes as well as a total readout since the project began.

The interruption of the laser beam also triggers the shutter of a camera with a 1200 mm lense focused to record any objects passing through the beam. The unit is so sensitive it could be triggered by falling leaves and other objects, but the film will clarify this possibility.

The laser beam projection is positioned 45 feet above the water surface. The unit is manned part-time, but is capable of remote operation for periods up to seven days. The beam poses no known threat to birds as they pass through.

The beam, invisible to the human eye, will simulate the effects of a power line under the "worst conditions" such as dense fog, which makes birds very vulnerable to striking fixed objects. "Weather does play an important part; under certain conditions and migration patterns, birds will fly lower and collide more often," Korschgen said. He pointed out birds can and will strike power lines under ideal conditions. For whatever reason, birds can be distracted from their normal activities and behavior often with detrimental results.

This will be a four-year study and a joint effort by FWS, NASA and Northern States Power Company. NASA is providing technical assistance and guidance, and Northern States Power has provided money and equipment. The laser beam apparatus is located on NSP property at a site nearl Red Wing, Minnesota.





SCHOLARSHIPS.....which camp would you like to attend?

The Saint Louis Audubon Society is awarding several scholarships in nature study to the National Audubon Society's Ecology Camps in Wyoming, Wisconsin, Connecticut, and Maine. Application for the scholarships and information about the camps may be obtained from the Scholarship Chairman, Gary Shackelford, 13 Scarsdale, St. Louis 63117.

Deadline for the return of applications is February 29, 1980. All applicants will be notified of the awards, which will be made by March 10.

LETTERS FROM 1979 AWARD WINNERS

In reviewing notes taken at the Maine Camp, I am amazed at the breadth of the program.

Being an early riser and not wanting to miss anything, I was up and out by 5:30 a.m. The stillness, the calm, the sounds of the birds, the water on the rocks, and the wind in the trees were both tranquilizing and stimulating. One morning I shared the dawn with a porcupine eating windfalls under an old apple tree. The porcupine, the apple tree, the dim light of the hazy dawn, and I--it was a privilege. I felt a kinship.

I enjoyed the experience of getting into a cold pond one chilly day. Such exciting life in a pond: the need, the place, the contribution of each--the plants, animal life, water depth variations, sun, soil, rain and wind. What a balance of each aspect, each facet, fitting together to form a pond.

Trips to various islands were an integral part of the learning experience. We were the guests, the birds the residents. On one island, lived many Great Blue Herons. Here they prepared for and raised their young. There, too, we saw dead herons. Death brought about by nest crowding, collapsing, or other natural causes. We saw death as a part of the living process with decomposition taking place and cycle going around again.

Puffins on Eastern Rock Island. They seemed to waiting for us, and put on their best "show". Again a reminder that people are not the center of the world with all life revolving around them and for them. Porcupines, puffins, pelicans, periwinkles and pines are important. There is none most favored or most entitled.

Back home again after having been nourished mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. I work with people. I believe our relationship with our natural world can be health sustaining and health promoting. Our senses of wonder, awareness, joy and appreciation need to be nurtured. Our sense of responsibility is needed. As I work with personal growth groups and classes, individuals, church and community groups, neighborhood children, and Arboretum school groups, I feel the essential whole and relatedness with our natural world. My ambition is to convey come of that.

Thank you for the scholarship. I appreciate it. I feel the responsibility that goes with it.

Jo Epping

Audubon Camp in Wisconsin

"Hey Susie! What would you think about going to an Audubon Camp this summer?"

"To a what?"

As he entered the den with a pamphlet in hand, Bill reiterated his question.

"Holy cow, to bird camp? I guess it'd be interesting and different, to say the least," I replied with a hesitating voice.

Very likely this dialog is familiar to most of the folks who ended up going to Audubon Camp. I doubt not that over half of Audubon's campers jokingly said their farewells back home as they bussed off to "bird camp" for two weeks.

When contemplating the notion of investing leisure time in a particular activity, many items enter the picture. Importantly, if that activity is new, one seems to have certain expectations and reservations. Gratitude abounds when the reality of expectations is fulfilled while reservations vanish. The Audubon Camp in Wisconsin dispels all reservations, fulfills our hopes, and surprises us with that extra something that makes Audubon the outstanding institution that it is.

Attending an Audubon session brings three major expectations. Primarily, one hopes to learn some new material. Secondly, the meeting of new people is on our minds. Experiencing a totally new environment is, as well, a keen expectation.

Once a decision is made to give Audubon Camp a whirl, then all the typical hesitations occur. One starts to wonder if the material presented will be too advanced or perhaps too boring. Will the other campers be stuffy? Will the timing of the sessions be too rigorous to allow drifting alone? Will the activity interests be overly limited? Will mosquitoes or poor food discourage one's enjoyment? How crowded will the camp be?

Luckily and happily the Audubon Camp displays remarkable realities. Ten of these should be taken into account.

The camp and its North Woods setting is a delightful experience. With temperatures warm enough to enjoy the water and sun, one also finds a cozy coolness. The camp itself offers tremendous diversity with everything from prairie to bog.

The camp is not merely a "bird camp." Areas are discussed that are new to many vocabularies (i.e. scatology, limnology). More than just the scientifically educated can benefit.

Mosquitoes, though a pain in the neck, are not as big as eagles as forewarnings predicted. A thorough dose of Cutter's saves the day.

The food prepared is exceptional. At no point does it remind one of institutional, carbohydrate cooking; in fact, the variety is overwhelming.

The entire staff is impressively credentialed. To boot they are spiked with contagious enthusiasm for their field.

The staff magnifies a superb organization. Everything falls into place without even the slightest wrinkle in the scheme.

The amount of time devoted to each staffed session is keyed to a T. Free time, reasonably abundant, is used for greater enhancement in various ways...snorkeling, photography, writing articles.

The groupings and total number of people are ideal. One never feels lost in the shuffle.

The visiting campers are varied, not only in age, but in their interests. They seem to have an inner concept of what the Audubon Camp has to offer for each individual and the good sense to know how deeply important it is for each person to have the chance to experience the camp in his or her own way.

Susan Morice Thoele, English Department Head
Holman, Jr. High, Pattonville Schools

JUNIOR AUDUBON NEWS

by Beverly J. Letchworth



ANYTHING GOES

We all know that Missouri's state bird is the Eastern Bluebird. Here are a few other states and their birds.

ALASKA.....WILLOW PTARMIGAN
ARIZONA.....CACTUS WREN
HAWAII.....NENE (Hawaiian Goose)
LOUISIANA.....BROWN PELIGAN
NEW MEXICO.....ROADRUNNER
OKLAHOMA.....SCISSOR*TAILED FLYCATCHER
SOUTH DAKOTA.....RING*NECKED PHEASANT
UTAH.....CALIFORNIA GULL

The CARDINAL is the state bird of seven states--Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia

The ROBIN is honored by three states, the MOCKINGBIRD by 5 states and the WESTERN MEADOWLARK is state bird of six states.

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WILDLIFE TRAILS

Come outside this winter day. Put some bird seed in the feeder (scatter some on the ground too) throw out some bread crumbs and raisins and hang a chunk of suet on a tree.

NOW SIT QUIETLY AND WATCH THE BIRDS COME TO YOUR YARD TO FEED. IF YOU ARE A REGULAR BIRD FEEDER, YOU WILL HAVE MANY TYPES OF BIRDS COME ALMOST IMMEDIATELY. THEY DEPEND ON THESE FOOD SUPPLIES SO ONCE YOU'VE STARTED FEEDING, DON'T QUIT UNTIL SPRING.

Try to keep a supply of water available for drinking too. And it seems surprising that even in below freezing weather, birds still love to take a bath. Especially the starlings! They kick up such a splash that within a few minutes, most of the water is out of the birdbath and on the ground.

MAKE A LIST OF EACH TYPE OF BIRD THAT COMES TO YOUR FEEDER ALL THROUGH THE WINTER. HOW MANY KINDS WILL YOU HAVE LISTED BY THE TIME SPRING COMES?

PS I have had as many as 26 kinds of birds visit during the winter.



UPBEAT

- ! Missouri has the second largest population of wintering bald eagles in the lower 48 states. Illinois has the most. If you would like to see these splendid birds this winter, go to Clarksville Dam on the Mississippi River or to Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge near Mound City. It's a trip you'll remember.
- ! The Kirtland warbler population is down to only about 400 birds. This is a 10% drop from a year ago. These birds nest only in thickets of young jack pine trees and only in the state of Michigan. The birds actually depend on forest fires, for the fire's heat is necessary for the pine cones to burst and release their seeds to start a new growth of trees.
- ! Pollution is still very much with us, but the Council on Environmental Quality reports that air quality in U.S. cities seems to be improving although most cities still have not met all the national standards. Also water quality has improved in many water bodies.



OFFBEAT

Here are some interesting facts that are fun to know.

- * The black-capped chickadee flaps its wings 27 times a second whereas a robin only beats its wings 2.3 times a second.
- * Hummingbirds are very fast, but they are sometimes caught by such creatures as large fish, frogs, dragonflies, praying mantises. Occasionally they get tangled in spider webs and can't get loose.
- * If you want to search for wild animals at night, use a red-covered flashlight. Its red beam is not seen by most night creatures because their eyes are made up of different types of cells that are not sensitive to red. Your light will appear black to them.
- * Birdwing butterflies are remarkable in their size. Wingspans can measure $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches across which earn them their name of "bird wing".

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GAME FUN

Complete each sentence by adding the name of any animal or bird. In some of the statements the word that will properly fit the sentence and sound like the answer will have to be spelled differently to form the correct animal or bird. For example--Uncle and ANT (aunt)

Spell it ANT to form correct name.

1. If you're naked, you're ____.
2. The man was bald; he had no ____.
3. The teacher told us to ____ to page 21.
4. A baseball team uses a ball and ____.
5. The windy month of March is a good time to fly a ____.
6. You begin a letter to a friend with ____.

Answers to game: 1. bear 2. hare 3. tern 4. bat 5. kite 6. deer

Focus on the

BETTY
WILSON



Environment



WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE FEDERAL STRIP MINE LAW?

The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act was hailed as one of the decade's major environmental achievements when it was signed by President Carter in August 1977.

It had taken ten years and two Presidential vetos before the law was enacted. Opposition to the legislation, primarily from the coal and electric utility industries, however, never abated. Court battles and delays in establishing the Office of Surface Mining (OSM), obtaining funding and promulgating regulations continued to plague implementation of the Act. And, now, to nobody's surprise, the opposition is continuing the fight to weaken the provisions of the Act.

If these amendments become attached to the Act, it will mean the law can do little to ensure the reclamation of strip mine lands, to promote the orderly development of our nation's coal resources and to protect the environment. The set of proposed amendments contained in S 1403 would cripple and immobilize implementation of the 1977 Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act. It has passed the Senate by a vote of 68-26 and is pending in the House Interior Committee.

Under the leadership of the House Committee's Chairman, Rep. Morris Udall, efforts are being made to prevent or at least stall consideration of the Senate bill. It is in the best interest of Missouri and of the country to have uniform national standards on strip mining and reclamation of strip mine lands, the amendments passed by the Senate in S 1403 would permit states to ignore federal regulations, which are the cutting edge of the 1977 Act.

It has been the experience of our state that unregulated strip mining leaves land devastated, disrupts and pollutes streams and aquifers, consumes tremendous amounts of water.

In the current desperate quest for energy, we must not allow our natural resources or our lands to be plundered, or our environment to be degraded. To try to produce our way out of the shortage with minimal attention to conservation and environmental laws will be very expensive to future generations.



REMINDER!

The enclosed contribution to Saint Louis Audubon Society is given for:

Educational Conducted Tours _____

Scholarships _____

Project SOAR _____
(Save Our American Raptors)

Wildlife Film Series _____

from _____

Make checks payable to: Saint Louis Audubon Society

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

National Audubon Society Membership Application

YES, I want to join the National Audubon Society. I understand I will receive a subscription to AUDUBON, which will come to me six times a year, and that my membership fee will be used to support the Society's fight to protect and preserve our natural environment.

Name _____
(Please print)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Individual Membership (\$20) | ☐ Please bill me |
| ☐ Family Membership (\$25) | ☐ Please renew my membership |
| ☐ Check enclosed | |

Chapter #2602

1A01

Mail dues to:
Saint Louis Audubon Society
2109 Briargate Lane
St. Louis, MO. 63127

HOLIDAY CACTUSES



Many interesting holiday cactuses will be welcome presents this season of the year. Although they are quite common house plants there is often confusion about varieties.

Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter are the three common holiday cactuses. The Thanksgiving cactus is often confused with the Christmas cactus as it will bloom from November until well after Christmas.

The Thanksgiving cactus has sawtooth points on the leaves, and the blooms come in many colors from red to magenta and even white.

The Christmas cactus has rounded leaves and no points. The blooms are bright Christmas red. This variety is probably the most prolific bloomer.

The Easter cactus, *Rhipsalidopsis rosea*, is very different from the Thanksgiving and Easter cactuses. This cactus has hairs on the tips of the leaves and the blooms are a rose-red.

All the holiday cactuses require short days. They should have about eight hours of daylight and 60 degree night temperature. Contrary to many articles and books, these holiday cactuses are hardy, easily propagated, and fun to live with.



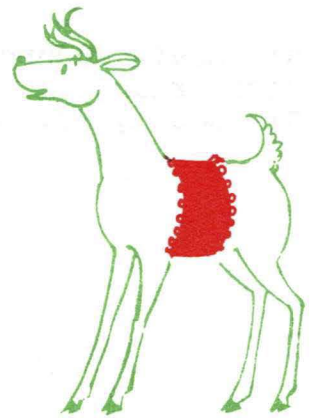
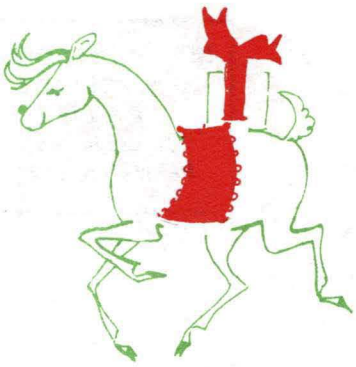
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

To nearly everyone the color of poinsettias is red- the Annette Hegge- but there are several other beautiful colors. Look for the lovely white poinsettias, pink poinsettias, Jingle Bells, red spotted with pink and the soft cream colored specimens.

During the day these plants need bright indirect light, but in the evening place them where you like. Never put them on television sets or appliances that generate heat. Check the soil daily as they must be kept evenly moist. The plants will accept 72° during the day and 60° at night.

You may wish to keep a poinsettia after the holidays for a foliage plant, but quite possibly it will never bloom again. If you need to trim the plant, cut back to the three leaf nodes. During the summer sink the pot in a light-filtered garden spot.

If the plant is healthy next October try your luck for bloom Christmas 1980. Start the first of October and give the plant TOTAL darkness for 14 hours each night for ten weeks. Put it in a closet or cover with a large cardboard box. During these 70 long nights the temperature should be around 65°. During the day return it to the usual growing spot. Good Luck! You may have a poinsettia in full bloom for the holiday season 1980.



CHRISTMAS FINDS

THE BEST FIND OF ALL...give yourself or loved one a ticket to the INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE, Yucatan, Mexico, March 18 through March 23.

Exceptional bird carvings and paintings are a FIND at Trade Winds Wildlife Gallery, 9773 Clayton Road.

Squirrel-proof feeders are a FIND at Beckmann Bros., 9141 Olive Street Road. See the Arundale feeder. Farrario, Inc., 9730 Clayton Road, the only source of the time-proven squirrel proof feeder, the Hylarious.

Rolling Ridge Nursery, 60 North Gore, Webster Groves, has fine bird feeders and accessories. A special FIND, their great service.

Bundles for the birds—a Scandinavian tradition called "Jule Neg" may be ordered from the Charles Kantan Farm, Box 146, Milan, Minnesota 56262. Delivery will be made with instructions for hanging. A real FIND.

Two books should FIND their way to your library or as gifts..."The Biography of a Tree" by our own James P. Jackson. The lovely, interesting story of the life of a white oak from acorn to mighty tree. \$10.95 at Walden Book Stores and Webster Groves Book Shop. If supply is exhausted let us FIND it for you. "A Complete Guide to Bird Feeding" by John V. Dennis is a "must" FIND. You'll learn all you need to know about feeders and feeding. Price \$10.00.

FIND your way to the Missouri Botanical Garden Shop. And FIND at book shops the Audubon Society Calendar, \$5.95, and the Mass. Audubon Society calendar, \$4.95.

Smoked turkeys for your holidays are a FIND at McDonnell Super Market, 12309 Big Bend, 821-3544. It is a "best bird".

A year-long FIND is joint membership in National and St. Louis Audubon. Use blank on page 16, this issue. If you wish to subscribe to the local BULLETIN and other mailings of the local Chapter the price is \$8.00. You will not be a member or receive the National magazine, AUDUBON.

Check book stores for the good FIND, "Flowers and Plants" by our board member, Bill Brush. Price \$2.00.

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